

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to local government reporting;  
3       amending ss. 129.03 and 166.241, F.S.; deleting an  
4       annual requirement for county budget officers and  
5       municipal budget officers, respectively, to report  
6       specified budget information to the Office of Economic  
7       and Demographic Research; creating s. 218.323, F.S.;  
8       providing legislative intent; requiring each county  
9       and municipality to annually report specified fiscal  
10      and economic information to the Department of  
11      Financial Services; requiring the department to adopt  
12      rules; requiring the department to establish a certain  
13      website by a specified date; requiring the department  
14      to annually generate and distribute to residents a  
15      specified local government report; specifying  
16      requirements for preparing and distributing the  
17      report; specifying required information in the report;  
18      specifying required information on the department's  
19      website; authorizing the department to select  
20      contractors for certain purposes; providing a  
21      procurement requirement; providing an effective date.

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23   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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26           Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
27   129.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

28           129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.—

29           (3) The county budget officer, after tentatively  
30   ascertaining the proposed fiscal policies of the board for the  
31   next fiscal year, shall prepare and present to the board a  
32   tentative budget for the next fiscal year for each of the funds  
33   provided in this chapter, including all estimated receipts,  
34   taxes to be levied, and balances expected to be brought forward  
35   and all estimated expenditures, reserves, and balances to be  
36   carried over at the end of the year.

37           ~~(d) By October 15, 2019, and each October 15 annually~~  
38   ~~thereafter, the county budget officer shall electronically~~  
39   ~~submit the following information regarding the final budget and~~  
40   ~~the county's economic status to the Office of Economic and~~  
41   ~~Demographic Research in the format specified by the office:~~

42           ~~1. Government spending per resident, including, at a~~  
43   ~~minimum, the spending per resident for the previous 5 fiscal~~  
44   ~~years.~~

45           ~~2. Government debt per resident, including, at a minimum,~~  
46   ~~the debt per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.~~

47           ~~3. Median income within the county.~~

48           ~~4. The average county employee salary.~~

49           ~~5. Percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits for~~  
50   ~~county employees.~~

51 ~~6. Number of special taxing districts, wholly or~~  
52 ~~partially, within the county.~~

53 Section 2. Subsections (4) and (6) of section 166.241,  
54 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

55 166.241 Fiscal years, budgets, and budget amendments.—

56 ~~(4) Beginning October 15, 2019, and each October 15~~  
57 ~~thereafter, the municipal budget officer shall electronically~~  
58 ~~submit the following information regarding the final budget and~~  
59 ~~the municipality's economic status to the Office of Economic and~~  
60 ~~Demographic Research in the format specified by the office:~~

61 ~~(a) Government spending per resident, including, at a~~  
62 ~~minimum, the spending per resident for the previous 5 fiscal~~  
63 ~~years.~~

64 ~~(b) Government debt per resident, including, at a minimum,~~  
65 ~~the debt per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.~~

66 ~~(c) Average municipal employee salary.~~

67 ~~(d) Median income within the municipality.~~

68 ~~(e) Number of special taxing districts wholly or partially~~  
69 ~~within the municipality.~~

70 ~~(f) Percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits for~~  
71 ~~municipal employees.~~

72 (5) ~~(6)~~ If the governing body of a municipality amends the  
73 budget pursuant to paragraph (4) (c) ~~(5) (e)~~, the adopted  
74 amendment must be posted on the official website of the  
75 municipality within 5 days after adoption and must remain on the

76 website for at least 2 years. If the municipality does not  
77 operate an official website, the municipality must, within a  
78 reasonable period of time as established by the county or  
79 counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the  
80 adopted amendment to the manager or administrator of such county  
81 or counties who shall post the adopted amendment on the county's  
82 website.

83 Section 3. Section 218.323, Florida Statutes, is created  
84 to read:

85 218.323 County and municipal fiscal and economic  
86 information; reporting requirement.—

87 (1) The Legislature intends to create an interactive  
88 repository for county and municipal financial information and to  
89 distribute a report that enables residents to compare the fiscal  
90 and economic status of counties and municipalities.

91 (2) By October 15, 2020, and each October 15 thereafter,  
92 each county and each municipality shall electronically submit to  
93 the department, in the method and format established by  
94 department rule, the information necessary to facilitate the  
95 preparation of the local government report and interactive  
96 website created pursuant to subsection (3).

97 (3) (a) By January 15, 2021, the department must establish  
98 an interactive website that allows residents to compare certain  
99 information about counties and municipalities. By January 15,  
100 2021, and each January 15 thereafter, the department must

101 generate and distribute a local government report depicting the  
102 fiscal and economic status of each county and municipality and  
103 providing a comparative ranking with all other counties and  
104 municipalities in this state.

105 (b) The local government report must be mailed to each  
106 household with a registered voter at the address. The local  
107 government report must be specific to the household's  
108 municipality and county. Each household not residing within a  
109 municipality must receive a local government report specific to  
110 the household's county. The local government report must assist  
111 the household in making direct comparisons of fiscal and  
112 economic metrics, must be a single page and use colorful  
113 graphics, and must provide the following information in an easy  
114 to understand format:

115 1. The government spending per resident, including the  
116 per-resident spending for the past 5 fiscal years. The local  
117 government report must depict total per-resident spending for  
118 the county or municipality, as applicable, and the rank for the  
119 county or municipality compared to all counties or  
120 municipalities, as applicable.

121 2. The government debt per resident, including the per-  
122 resident debt for the previous 5 fiscal years. The local  
123 government report must depict the total debt for the county or  
124 municipality, as applicable, and the rank for the county or  
125 municipality compared to all counties or municipalities, as

126 applicable.

127 3. The average county or municipal employee salary, as  
128 applicable. The local government report must depict the average  
129 county or municipal employee salary, as applicable.

130 4. The median income. The local government report must  
131 depict the median income for the county or municipality, as  
132 applicable, and the rank for the county or municipality compared  
133 to all counties or municipalities, as applicable.

134 5. The average school grade for the county or  
135 municipality, as applicable.

136 6. The crime rate for the county. The local government  
137 report must depict the crime rate for the county and the rank  
138 for the county compared to all counties.

139 (c) In addition to the information included in the local  
140 government report required under paragraph (b), the interactive  
141 website must, at a minimum, include the following information:

142 1. The population of the county or municipality, as  
143 applicable.

144 2. The unemployment rate for the county or municipality,  
145 as applicable.

146 3. The percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits  
147 for county or municipal employees, as applicable. The website  
148 must depict the percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits  
149 for the county or municipality, as applicable, and the rank for  
150 the county or municipality compared to all counties or

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151 municipalities, as applicable.

152 4. The number of special taxing districts, wholly or  
153 partially, within the county or municipality, as applicable.

154 5. The government revenue per resident for the county or  
155 municipality, as applicable. The website must depict government  
156 revenue per resident for the county or municipality, as  
157 applicable, and the rank for the county or municipality compared  
158 to all counties or municipalities, as applicable.

159 (4) The department may choose one or more contractors to  
160 design and distribute the local government report to enable  
161 residents to compare the fiscal and economic status data  
162 reported by each county and municipality, and to create the  
163 interactive website. The department must select contractors  
164 through an open request for proposal process pursuant to chapter  
165 287.

166 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.